

## Minutes of February Meeting of Allentown EAC

A meeting of the Allentown EAC was held on February 23, 2015 starting at 5:15 p.m. in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor conference room at City Hall.

EAC Members Present: Tinku Khanwalkar, Randy Fey, Joe Hoffman

Non-EAC Members Present: Lee Vedder

- Joe moved to approve the minutes of the January EAC meeting. Randy seconded and the minutes were **APPROVED**.
- Tinku Khanwalkar reported on her quarterly meeting with the Mayor. The following matters were discussed with the Mayor:
  - The Mayor expressed an interest in EAC research into the following subjects: plastic bags ordinance, green roof policy, bird town measures/native plant proposals. The Mayor also suggested that Rodale be contacted on how the EAC can help with urban gardening.
  - The Mayor suggested that all the research being done by the EAC should be submitted to him. He agreed to attend a future EAC meeting this summer to hear presentations by EAC members on the topics they have researched and to hold a dialog about them. The EAC will need to decide when it might be ready for such a meeting and then coordinate with the Mayor
  - An annual EAC presentation for new parks employees was discussed. Another option would be an EAC stewardship statement or letter that could be inserted into the orientation materials for all City employees. This needs further discussion at the EAC.
  - An annual EAC event was discussed. The Mayor suggested checking with Touchstone Theater for possible ideas.
- Randy Fey agreed to draft a potential green roof policy for EAC consideration at the April meeting.
- Tinku Khanwalkar moved that at the April EAC meeting, Randy Fey should present a draft EAC statement on environmental stewardship for the EAC liaisons to discuss with the City department heads. Joe Hoffman seconded and the motion was **APPROVED**.

- Randy Fey suggested that Tinku Khanwalkar should introduce herself and present the EAC's vision and activities to City Council so as to open lines of communication with them. Tinku agreed to look into doing so.
- There was a discussion about an annual EAC event that would help with outreach on environmental stewardship. Tinku agreed to check with Julie Thomases on whether there will be a Sustain-a-ball this year. If not, Lee Vedder agreed to look into an artistic/environmental event to be held possibly in conjunction with some other event. Joe Hoffman agreed to look into whether there is a Valley-wide event that may serve the purpose.
- With respect to EAC support on urban gardening, Joe Hoffman reported that the EAC could help find residents willing to be the first ones to implement the urban gardens. Ten residential properties are needed. Joe offered to help find them.
- Tinku moved to include the Pennsylvania Audubon Bird Town newsletter on the EAC web site as Allentown is a Bird Town. The motion was seconded by Joe and **APPROVED**.
- The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.